

Crespo Promoted to Triple-A

Written by Mike Flynn
Friday, 19 July 2013 16:01

Former Appalachian State University baseball standout Hector Crespo (Miami, Fla./Florida Christian), who was selected by the New York Yankees in the 34th round of last month's Major League Baseball Draft, was promoted to the Yankees' triple-A affiliate, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Railriders, on Friday morning. Crespo is just the seventh player that finished his collegiate career at Appalachian State to reach as high as AAA and the first since Mark Poston spent the 1987 season with the Las Vegas Stars in the San Diego Padres' organization. Of the previous six Mountaineers to advance to AAA, four went on to play in the Major Leagues — Ron Hodges (New York Mets, 1973-84), John Pychea (Chicago Cubs, 1954), Mike Ramsey (St. Louis Cardinals/Montreal Expos/Los Angeles Dodgers, 1978-85) and Coakler Triplett (Chicago Cubs/St. Louis Cardinals/Philadelphia Phillies, 1938-45).

Playing second and third base, Crespo hit .268 with eight runs scored, six walks and two stolen bases in his first 12 professional games with the Staten Island Yankees of the class-A New York-Penn League. He was promoted to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre to replace infielder Brent Lillibridge, who was called up to the big club when Derek Jeter was placed on the 15-day disabled list on Friday.

A four-year starter at Appalachian State from 2010-13, Crespo set school records with 225 games played (all starts — 171 at second base and 54 at third base) and 101 stolen bases. He also ranks among Appalachian's all-time leaders with 283 career hits (second in program history), 208 runs (second), 47 doubles (tied for seventh), nine triples (tied for sixth), 381 total bases (third), 124 walks (second) and 874 at-bats (second), while his 101 career steals also ranked sixth in Southern Conference history. He earned freshman all-America accolades in 2010, was a second-team all-conference selection in 2012 and first-team honoree in 2013. Crespo is one of eight former Mountaineers currently playing professional baseball. Other former Mountaineers in the pro ranks include:

- **RHP Sam Agnew-Wieland (2013)**, who sports a 3.75 ERA and 13 strikeouts in seven appearances with Staten Island after being selected in the 24th round of last month's draft by the Yankees.
- **RHP Ryan Arrowood (2009-12)**, who is an impressive 5-1 with a 3.29 ERA with the Asheville Tourists, a class-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies. Arrowood has amassed 76 strikeouts with only 20 walks in 63 innings for Asheville this season. Colorado selected Arrowood in the 28th round of the 2012 MLB Draft.
- **IF Will Callaway (2011-13)**, who has two doubles and four RBI in just 18 at-bats for the Arizona Giants of the rookie-level Arizona League. Callaway was selected by the world-champion San Francisco Giants in the 37th round of last month's MLB Draft.
- **C Jeremy Dowdy (2009-12)**, who is hitting .265 with three doubles and four RBI in 15 games with the Kannapolis Intimidators, a class-A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox in the South Atlantic League. Dowdy signed with the White Sox as a free agent in 2012 and has reached as high as AA during his brief pro career.
- **RHP Nathan Hyatt (2010-12)**, who ranks second in the high-A-level Carolina League with nine saves for the Lynchburg Hillcats this season. The Hillcats are an affiliate of the Atlanta Braves, who selected Hyatt in the 13th round of the 2012 MLB Draft.
- **RHP Rob Marcello (2011-12)**, who has struck out 11 and owns one save in nine appearances with the class-A Williamsport Crosscutters of the New York-Penn League. The Philadelphia Phillies selected Marcello in the 17th round of last month's MLB Draft.

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• **C Tyler Tewell (2010-12)**, who is the starting catcher for the Rome Braves of the South Atlantic League. Tewell has six home runs, five doubles, a triple, 17 RBI and 28 runs scored in Rome this season after being selected by the Atlanta Braves in the 14th round of the 2012 MLB Draft.

Photo Courtesy: Hector Crespo, ASU Athletics